

I HIT THE BIG CORPORATIONS TODAY

A stretch of them in Santa Ana running down Slater, which turns into Segerstrom, then Dyer, then a right turn onto Red Hill Avenue and on into Irvine, hundreds of them, giant places with cryptic names like APPLIED MAGNETICS, TRANSPORT DYNAMICS, COMPUTERISTICS, DATA CONTROL CORP., TRE CORP., SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTS, NEWPORT LABS. I went door to door with no idea of what they made or sold or did, asking if they accepted applications.

They asked what type of work I was interested in and I just said that I had been a librarian, had a lot of clerical experience and some computer experience, but very little, but that I'd be interested in anything, some sort of technical trainee or something. About half said they had openings only for scientists or engineers or contract administrators, but about half gave me an application to fill out.

It began to rain pretty heavily and soon my suit was damp and darkening running to and from the parking lots and the employment offices but I continued filling out the applications, the car windows steaming, my shoes filled with water.

One place was hiring electronic assembler trainees, no experience required, at \$2.50 an hour. I applied, thinking Jesus how can I feed my wife and kids on that. I got back in the car, got mad thinking about it, put on a Stone's tape, STREET FIGHTING MAN, thought about burning down things, revolution, injustice, anarchy.

Another was hiring pharmaceutical salesmen, high bracket sales, \$40 or 50 grand a year. It worried me, what I would do with all that money, but I applied anyway.

None of them will call anyhow.